



NEW ZEALAND  
**CUSTOMS SERVICE**  
TE MANA ĀRAI O AOTEAROA

PROTECTING NEW ZEALAND'S BORDER

**Investigations Unit**

s 6(a) OIA

**SUBJECT: UN-DECLARED BORDER CASH**

**DATE:** s 6(a) OIA

**FILE:** s 6(a) OIA

**TO:** s 6(a) OIA

s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA

On s 6(a) OIA I was the s 6(a) OIA Investigations on call officer.

At about 0240 hrs s 6(a) OIA I received a call from Border Operations, s 6(a) OIA International Airport. I was advised that they currently had an arriving passenger who had been detected with in excess of \$335,000.00 in undeclared cash.

The passenger had arrived on s 6(a) OIA

I was advised that a cash detector dog had indicated on s 6(a) OIA who had been referred into the Customs search area, the passenger had not declared cash in excess of NZ\$ 10,000 and upon a baggage search a large quantity of cash in different currencies was located.

The passenger was s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA travelling on s 6(a) OIA passport s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA was member of s 6(a) OIA delegation that had arrived in New Zealand at the invitation of the NZ Government, s 6(a) OIA Due to the flight delay s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA had been unable to attend the formal function. The remainder of the delegation had arrived before s 6(a) OIA, and were likely to have attended the function. s 9(2)(a) OIA

A representative from the s 6(a) OIA (was present at the airport to uplift s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA and Border Operations staff had received MFAT notification that s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA was expected on that flight, however he was not travelling on a Diplomatic passport and had not declared cash on his arrival card.

I was advised that s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA was asked about the cash he had in his possession and his luggage was searched and envelopes containing cash were detected, s 6(c) OIA

s 6(c) OIA

s 6(a) OIA was in NZ for three days and was due to depart s 6(a) OIA for Australia early s 6(a) OIA morning s 6(a) OIA

I advised Border Operations staff that as the cash had not been declared it was likely that the cash would be seized, I also advised that Investigations staff would attend the airport.

At about 0430 hrs CTS [redacted] SCO [redacted] and myself had arrived at the airport and received a debrief from the operations staff Customs Officer [redacted] (searching officer) Customs Officer [redacted] (primary line immigrating officer) and Supervising Customs Officer [redacted] Shift Officer in Charge). further to the above information it was established that [redacted] had [redacted] Diplomatic passport in his possession, however he did not travel on this document and had not mentioned Diplomatic immunity at any stage. [redacted] had a member of the [redacted] present, who had been assisting with translation. The cash was his personal money and not that of the delegation. [redacted] was a frequent international traveller and he had knowledge of the requirements to report cash in excess of \$10,000. He stated that [redacted]

[redacted] was spoken to by CTS [redacted] and it was explained that it was likely that his cash would be seized as it had not been declared as required.

Due to the circumstances it was decided not to arrest [redacted] for importing prohibited goods (undeclared cash) but to issue an official warning. The cash would be detained initially with a view to seizure.

Border Operations staff prepared a notice of detention of goods and an official warning letter.

At 0615 hrs I spoke to [redacted] with CO [redacted] was dressed in smart casual attire, he had a reasonable understanding of English, he advised that his friend (secretary) had departed to obtain another friend and that he preferred to await their arrival so as I could explain matters to them who in turn could translate to him.

I assisted CO [redacted] in bagging the cash into different security bags according to the currency [redacted] these individual bags were placed into a Customs Secure Storage Bag in front of [redacted] and was sealed. [redacted] preferred to repack his luggage without our assistance.

At 0625 hrs the [redacted] was in attendance with the Press Secretary. I handed the detention of goods notice to [redacted] and explained the form, he translated [redacted] I then explained that it was an offence not to declare cash in excess of 10,000 and that [redacted] could be arrested. I explained that he was receiving an Official Warning in this instance and handed the letter to [redacted] who again translated for [redacted]

[redacted] wanted to know when he could uplift the cash on Monday morning, I advised that Customs would be detaining the cash and that he would not be getting it back on Monday and that it was likely the cash would be seized. If it was seized an official seizure notice would be issued which contained the rights of review of seizure. I advised that any official documentation would be sent to the [redacted] address provided by [redacted] [redacted] advised that [redacted] did not live at the [redacted] address and that any correspondence or Court matters for [redacted] were to be directed care of him at the [redacted] and that he would ensure that [redacted] was advised.

At 0620 hrs all persons were thanked and advised that they were free to go, they were directed to the exit.

At 0702 hrs I witnessed the cash being secured in the safe.



# NEW ZEALAND CUSTOMS SERVICE JOB SHEET

Te Matiri Aotearoa

Subject: s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA

File:

First plan your inquiry then set out the action taken, inquiries made, oral statements of persons seen, and information gained, etc.

Date and Time:

s 6(a) OIA

0115 hrs

My name is s 9(2)(a) OIA am a Customs Officer with New Zealand Customs Service based in the Detector Dog Unit as a Detector Dog Handler (DDH).

At approximately 0115 hrs on the s 6(a) OIA at s 6(a) OIA Airport, I assisted SCO detector dog handler s 9(2)(a) OIA screen passengers off flight s 6(a) OIA.

I observed detector dog s 9(2)(a) OIA indicated to a small bag owned by passenger s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA.

Handler s 9(2)(a) OIA handed passenger s 6(a) OIA to myself for further questioning.

Q) How much money do you have?

P) No English

Q) Where is your cash (my actions pointing to his luggage)

P) In my bag

Q) Show me

Passenger s 6(a) OIA shows me a stack of s 6(a) OIA currency saying its around \$3000, then shows me some s 6(a) OIA currency saying its around \$1,400 and lastly \$100,000 s 6(a) OIA I estimated this to be around \$5800 NZD.

Q) Do you have any more money anyway else?

P) No

Passenger s 6(a) OIA was then referred to search by handler SCO s 9(2)(a) OIA for further questioning.

This was the end of my interaction with passenger s 6(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA.

Further Comment:

Name: s 9(2)(a) OIA

Designation: Customs Officer

Date: s 6(a) OIA  
s 9(2)(a) OIA

Date:

Signed:

Signed:





# NEW ZEALAND CUSTOMS SERVICE JOB SHEET

Te Māori Ariā o Aotearoa

Subject: s 6(3) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA

File: s 6(3) OIA

First plan your inquiry then set out the action taken, inquiries made, oral statements of persons seen, and information gained, etc.

Date and Time:

s 6(3) OIA

0122 hrs

My name is s 6(2)(a) OIA and I am a Customs Officer Based at s 6(3) OIA Airport.

At approximately 0122hrs, I escorted s 6(2)(a) OIA into the Customs search area as he was subject to a dog to bag indication in the baggage hall by DDU s 6(2)(a) OIA and handler SCO s 6(2)(a) OIA.

I asked s 6(2)(a) OIA to place his cash on the Search bench 1, along with his luggage. s 6(2)(a) OIA placed one brown envelope containing s 6(2)(a) OIA and one black zippered pouch containing s 6(2)(a) OIA onto the bench. I asked if he had any other cash in any of his bags. He said no.

I explained to s 6(2)(a) OIA that I was going to search his bags. He said, "Oh I'm sorry I remembered that I have some more." He removed another brown envelope containing s 6(2)(a) OIA. I placed it on the search bench with the other envelopes. He then produced another envelope from his handbag with a mix of currencies inside. I asked him again if he had any other cash. He said no.

I searched his small carry on suitcase, no other cash was located.

I searched his small handbag and located an envelope of s 6(3) OIA and some more s 6(3) OIA. s 6(2)(a) OIA asked him again if he had any other cash. He said no.

I searched his large hard sided suitcase, and found one more envelope containing s 6(3) OIA.

All of the money was placed onto search bench 1 for counting. CO s 6(2)(a) OIA witnessed.

Currency counted on the cash counter:

s 6(3) OIA

Currency counted by myself on search bench 1:

s 6(3) OIA

with a total New Zealand Dollar equivalent of \$335,445.30

I asked s 6(2)(a) OIA if he understood the arrival card, he said yes. I asked him why he did not declare his cash. He only said "sorry sorry, it was my mistake". He could not give me any reasonable excuse for his non declaration. The money was located from various banks and currency exchanges around the world. s 6(2)(a) OIA explained that he travels a lot and collects cash as he goes. He could not produce any receipts to prove the source of the funds.

0241

On-call CDIU SCO s 9(2)(a) OIA was contacted and the situation was outlined to him. He advised that we would be detaining the cash and investigators would attend.

Further Comment:

Name: s 9(2)(a) OIA

Designation: Customs Officer

Date: s 6(3) OIA  
s 9(2)(a) OIA

Signed: s 9(2)(a) OIA

Date:

Signed: